

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SNM-05 DEAE-00 HEW-04 OES-07 CTME-00 SY-05
FBIE-00 /095 W
-----025864 171446Z /41

R 171344Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6953
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: DISCUSSION WITH GDR AUTHORITIES.

1. THE EMBASSY WAS CALLED BY THE MFA PROTOCOL SECTION ON MARCH 1 AND INFORMED THAT A MR. SCHUMANN WOULD SEE JOHN A. BASTEK, EMBASSY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND NARCOTICS COORDINATOR, ON MARCH 2. THOUGH NO REASON FOR REQUEST WAS GIVEN, IT WAS ASSUMED THE SUBJECT WOULD BE NARCOTICS SINCE THE EMBASSY'S NARCOTICS COORDINATOR HAD BEEN ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE SUCH A MEETING FOR THE PAST SIXTEEN MONTHS.

2. PRIOR TO ATTENDING THIS MEETING, COORDINATOR MET AT US MISSION BERLIN WITH MESSRS. HUMPHREY AND RAYBOURN TO DISCUSS WHAT SHOULD BE SAID IF AN ACTUAL MEETING ON NARCOTICS CONTROL WAS THE REASON FOR THE REQUESTED CALL. THESE TOPICS WILL BE LISTED HEREIN.

3. ON ARRIVAL AT MFA, COORDINATOR WAS MET BY A DR.
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KLOTTE, WHO SAID HE WAS AN ASSISTANT TO GUNTHER SCHUMANN. SCHUMANN'S CALLING CARD DESCRIBES HIM AS COUNSELOR, HEAD OF SECTION, DIVISION FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

4. DISCUSSION WAS IN ENGLISH AND SCHUMANN MENTIONED HE

SPENT FIVE YEARS IN GENEVA IN THE UN OFFICES FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. PRIOR TO START OF DISCUSSION, COORDINATOR MENTIONED THAT THE PRIMARY INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND CONTROL WAS ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS. COORDINATOR WANTED THIS FIRST MEETING TO BE ON A FRIENDLY TONE AND NOT UPSET MFA OFFICIALS THAT THERE WERE STRONG SUSPICION THAT SCHOENEFELD AIRPORT WAS PERHAPS MAIN ENTRY POINT FOR NARCOTICS ENTERING WEST BERLIN. TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE:

A) WHO IN THE GDR WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL? SCHUMANN SAID IT WAS HIS OFFICE, BUT THAT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH WAS ALSO INVOLVED. THE RESPONSIBILITY AT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH WAS WITH A DR. SCHNEIDERWIND, CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT FOR PHARMACEUTICALS, WHO WAS ASSISTED BY A DR. SINGER WHOSE MAIN INTEREST WAS DANGEROUS NARCOTICS AND ADDICTION. BOTH OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ATTENDED THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE UN DRUG COMMISSION IN GENEVA IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. SEIZURES AND ARRESTS WERE RESPONSIBILITIES OF GDR CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES. SCHUMANN MENTIONED THAT SEIZURES OF NARCOTICS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE GDR AND WERE DULY REPORTED TO THE UN COMMISSION ON DRUGS IN GENEVA.

B) WOULD THEY BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING LITERATURE AND PUBLICATIONS ON NARCOTICS IN GENERAL? BOTH WERE SURPRISED THAT SUCH MATERIAL WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AND IF IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS, IT SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO DR. SCHNEIDERWIND.

C) WOULD THEY BE INTERESTED IN NAMES OF SUSPECTED COURIERS OF NARCOTICS? AGAIN, BOTH REGISTERED SURPRISE THAT SUCH INFORMATION WOULD BE PROVIDED. THEY THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE, BUT WOULD ENQUIRE OF GDR CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES.

D) WERE THEY AWARE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF BULGARIA WAS COOPERATING WITH THE U.S. DEA? AGAIN, SURPRISE, BUT DID COORDINATOR KNOW OF ANY OTHER COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE WHICH COOPERATED WITH THE DEA? RESPONSE UNFORTUNATELY HAD TO BE NEGATIVE, BUT COORDINATOR NOTED THAT THE USSR AGREED TO SEE DEA OFFICIALS WHEN AMERICAN CITIZENS WERE ARRESTED IN MOSCOW LAST YEAR FOR SMUGGLING NARCOTICS.

E) DID THE GDR CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES HAVE SPOT CHECKS OR OTHER CONTROLS TO APPREHEND DRUG TRAFFICKERS? RESPONSE WAS AFFIRMATIVE AND SCHUMANN WOULD NOT GO INTO DETAIL EXCEPT AGAIN MENTIONING SEIZURES HAVE BEEN MADE AND REPORTED TO GENEVA.

5. A GENERAL CONVERSATION THEN TOOK PLACE IN WHICH

SCHUMANN MENTIONED HE WAS AWARE OF WEST SECTOR BERLIN PROBLEM WITH NARCOTICS BUT THAT CONTROL WAS RESPONSIBILITY OF WEST BERLIN POLICE AND NOT THE GDR'S. HE MENTIONED THAT THE GDR ALSO HAD ADDICTS BUT IT WAS NOT A SERIOUS CONCERN AS THE NUMBER OF ADDICTS DID NOT EXCEED A HUNDRED IN A NATION OF SEVENTEEN MILLION PEOPLE. ALL OF THE ALLEGED ADDICTS ARE KNOWN TO THE AUTHORITIES.

6. ON THE WHOLE, THE MEETING WAS FRIENDLY AND RELAXED. SCHUMANN PROVIDED HIS AND KLOTTE'S PHONE NUMBERS, ADVISING COORDINATOR THAT HE SHOULD FEEL FREE TO CALL EITHER OF THEM AT ANY TIME THERE IS A NEED TO DISCUSS NARCOTICS PROBLEMS. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT LITERATURE ON

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NARCOTICS CONTROL, AVAILABLE RELATED STATISTICS BE PROVIDED TO THE COORDINATOR FOR PRESENTATION TO THE GDR AUTHORITIES SO THAT THIS FIRST CONTACT CAN BE MAINTAINED FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE GDR COOPERATION ON THIS SUBJECT.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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